## LONGDENDALE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

## Medical Officer's Report for the year ending 31st December 1965

To the Chairman and Members of the Council

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you the Annual Report on the health of Longdendale for the year 1965.

This report can only be incomplete because of the absence of a comparability factor for the area. This did not appear on the usual form supplied by the General Registry Office some months ago and no reply has been received to a further request for it to be supplied. Undoubtedly this is due to the difficulty arising from the very considerable increase in population that has occurred during the year in question. As can be seen from Mr. Skirrow's report, an additional 775 homes were occupied during 1965, an increase amounting to 39 percent. The mid-year population was estimated at 5,590 compared with the mid-year estimate for 1964 of 4,870. This mid-year population would of course have increased by the end of the year to correspond with the occupancy of the new houses.

Until the population settles down it will not be possible to provide accurate comparisons year by year concerning death rates as the population has not only changed in total quantity but also to an unknown extent in age structure. It is probable that the proportion of young children in the Hattersley portion of Longdendale is much higher than that obtaining elsewhere in Longdendale. The pattern of deaths remains however much the same. Half the male deaths are under the age of 65 while the bulk of the female deaths are over the age of 65. Between the ages of 35 and 65 male deaths outnumber female deaths by 2 to 1. Cancer and heart disease account for the bulk of these untimely deaths, particularly in the male. One untimely death that deserves special mention was that of a man aged 33 who died from acute poliomyelitis. He was one of 5 cases that occurred during the last fortnight in August on the Hattersley estate and his home was just over the border in Longdendale. It is now known that poliomyelitis virus causing this outbreak was not related to the virus at work in Blackburn. It was a very virulent virus much more so than the one in circulation in Blackburn and it was fortunate that the local population responded so swiftly and so fully to the appeal for mass vaccination. Within 48 hours of the confirmation of the presence of polio on the estate virtually every individual on Hattersley presented himself or herself for a lump of sugar which contained the protective vaccine. The epidemic ended as quickly and as dramatically as it had begun. The cause of the outbreak was undoubtedly the presence of larger numbers of children on the estate who had not been vaccinated against poliomyelitis, even though a weekly clinic was held within a very short distance of the 3 homes in which the cases occurred. The outbreak has taught us two things, (1) that though cases of poliomyelitis have almost vanished from our hospitals because of the widespread immunisation carried on throughout the country, where ever substantial numbers of parents forget the danger and neglect the simple precaution of having their children protected, the polio virus is still able to mount a devastating and fatal attack. Here, as with diphtheria, eternal vigilance is the price that must be paid if we are to remain free from this crippling disease. (2) we have a new weapon in combating an epidemic of this disease should it ever occur again. The virus on Hattersley was unusually virulent and the number of unprotected children and adults unusually high. Yet the moment the population responded to the appeal for mass vaccination the epidemic came to an end literally within a few days and no further cases occurred. For this to happen the response must be prompt and it must be universal. Given the satisfying of these two conditions a new and most effective weapon is now available. During the weeks that followed anti polio vaccination was offered to all who had not been done or whose previous vaccinations were now either partly or wholly out of date. Clinics were manned in Broadbottom and Hollingworth and my very sincere thanks are due to the many volunteers who helped in running these clinics.

<sup>\*</sup> This has now been received and taken into account in the calculations on page 1 of this Report.

In view of certain recent publicity I would like to emphasise that there has been no increase in congenital abnormalities following the mass vaccination campaign against poliomyelitis.

In Mr. Skirrow's excellent report reference is again made to the problem of Brucellosis. I am glad to report that Her Majesty's Government is at least beginning to take tentative though definite steps towards a policy of eradication. This can be the only answer to a disease that is an ever present threat wherever raw milk (even though it is T.T.) is retailed to the general public or consumed by the farmer and his own family. It will take some years before this policy in its present form does any real good and until that day dawns I must repeat my advice that the only safe milk to drink is milk that has been pasteurised.

My thanks are again due to Mr. Skirrow, the Public Health Inspector for the area, who carries so much of the load of preventive medicine in your area and also to the other officers of the Council for their kindness and help at all times.

Finally Mr. Chairman and Members of the Council may I offer my thanks to you for your continued interest and support in public health matters.

Yours faithfully,

A. S. DARLING

Medical Officer of Health Longdendale U.D.C.

## POPULATION

The Registrar General's estimate for mid-1965 was 5,590.

#### BIRTHS

There ware 77 live births during 1965. Of these 40 were males and 37 females.

The Crude Birth Rate was 13.8 per 1,000 compared with 15.8 per 1,000 in 1964. When adjusted for comparative purposes with other areas the birth rate was 17.0 per 1,000 compared with 18.1 for England and Wales.

#### DEATHS

The number of deaths during 1965 was 67. Of these 35 were males and 32 females. The Crude Death Rate was 12.0 per 1,000 compared with 13.5 per 1,000 for 1964. When adjusted for comparative purposes with other areas the Death Rate was 12.1, the figure for England and Wales during 1965 being 11.5. The causes of death were as shown in the table on page 2.

#### INFANT MORTALITY

There were two deaths of children under the age of twelve months.

## MATERNAL MORTALITY

No deaths occurred as a result of pregnancy.

#### INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The following figures indicate the extent to which all types of notifiable infectious diseases occurred.

	Whooping Cough	1
	Measles	47
	Pneumonia	1
*	Polionyelitis	
	Tuberculosis	

\*One case of Poliomyelitis occurred in Mottram but due to some doubt as to the exact location of the address it was notified as a Hyde case.

### LABORATORY FACILITIES

Specimens obtained from patients by family practitioners for various bacteriological tests are sent to the Public Health Laboratory at Monsall Hospital, Manchester. Reports upon specimens are sent to the patient's own doctor and copies are forwarded to the Health Office.

TUBERCULOSIS	Male	Female
Number of cases on the register on 31.12.64.	11	5
Number of cases added to register during 1965 was	7	15
Number of cases removed from register during 1965 was	3	2
Number of cases re ining on register on 31.12.65	15	18

Services administered by the Cheshire County Council

#### CARE OF MOTHERS AND BABIES

A weekly ante-natal Clinic is held following the School Nurse's session each Tuesday afternoon. The local Domiciliary Midwife attends for the

## CARE OF MOTHERS AND BABIES (Cont'd)

purpose of examination of expectant mothers who wish to have their babies at home. The afternoon of the 2nd Monday in each month is devoted to immunisation and is attended by the Divisional Medical Officer. Other immunisation sessions are carried out as the need arises.

- 2 -

Total All Causes	35. Suicide	34. All Other Accidents	32. Motor Vehicle Accidents	32. Other Defined and Ill-Defined Diseases	24. Bronchitis	23. Pneumonia	21. Other Circulatory Disease	20. Other Heart Disease	18. Coronary Disease, Angina	17. Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	14. Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	12. Walignant Neoplasm, Breast	1P. Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	10. Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	Sex
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Child Welfare Sessions were held from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month through the year - a local Medical Practitioner and Health Visitor being in attendance.

New Cases	Total Attendances	Average Attendances	<u>Consultations</u>
68 (53)	1419 (1,158)	49 (49)	203 (196)

The N. & C.W. Clinic in the Methodist Church School, Broadbottom, is held on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday afternoons each month. A local Medical Practitioner and Health Visitor attend to give advice on child care and to carry out immunisation treatments.

			Doctor's
New Cases	Total Attendances	Average Attendances	Consultations
19 (34)	784 (704)	29 (29)	155 (205)

#### WELFARE FOODS DISTRIBUTION

Supplies of these commodities are available during Hollingworth and Broadbottom Clinic Sessions.

Voluntary workers again rendered valuable assistance in connection with weighing of children, keeping of records, providing tea for mothers, and the sale of infant foods and other nourishments.

## NURSING IN THE HOME

One full-time domiciliary Nurse attends patients in Mottram and Broadbottom.

The Hollingworth district is covered by a Nurse who is responsible also for cases resident in Tintwistle (Separate figures for Hollingworth residents are not readily available).

Nursing requisites continue to be stored at a private house in Broadbottom and at the M. & C.W. Centre at Hollingworth. Such items as back-rests, bed-pans etc., are available on loan from the stores on application to either of these centres.

#### HEALTH VISITING : .

One Health Visitor supervises the welfare of infants, young children, expectant mothers and nursing mothers by paying visits to their homes and attending at the Clinics. Visits to aged and infirm persons in need of attention are her responsibility also.

Visits paid to the homes in Longdendale and Tintwistle were as under:-

Expectant	Children	School	Re Home	T.B. I	Aged
Mothers	Under 5	Children	Helps		Persons
192 (150)	2,577 (2,300)	186 (92)	51 (23)	30 (34)	802

Figures in brackets indicate the corresponding numbers in the previous year.

Greenfield Street, HYDE.

December, 1966.

## LONGDENDALE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Public Health Inspector's Report for the year ending 31st December, 1965

To the Chairman and Members of the Council

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting my Annual Report for the year 1965.

The year saw spectacular change in the district as the portion of Manchester Overspill Development within the Longdendale boundary progressed rapidly, and this, combined with the sever extensions and improvement works following on same will, when the overspill housing is complete, have resulted in sweeping changes in the district both visually and in respect of sanitary circumstances.

Though there is still much work to be done in the matter of Housing progress, both in the clearance of unfit houses and in the improvement of existing houses, at least it is now possible to claim that the district has overcome some of the back-log of lack of amenity which up to a few years ago was a matter of some concern. That this has been done so quickly is an indication of the Council's willingness to accept the cost of equitable grant contributions towards these improvements.

New legislation, including the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963, the entra work on such things as investigations, following milk sample reports for Brucella testing, and the absence of clerical assistance, have contributed to difficulty in carrying out all the routine inspections I would like to be able to effect.

Towards the end of the year an attempt was made at the categorisation of existing properties as to future life and action thereon. This was a difficult exercise and whilst every effort is made go give enquirers information in respect of a particular property, even at this stage it is not possible to see a clear cut decision on all properties in the district; what is abundantly clear and has been stressed again and again by the Council, is the fact that for properties on which the Council is prepared to make Standard or Improvement Grant, nothing can be better advised than for owners (whether owner/occupiers or rented) to take advantage of these provisions and proceed with such improvement schemes.

I would again thank the Officers of the Council and Doctor Darling for their co-operation.

Yours faithfully,

F. SKIRROW.

## TABLE SHOWING SANITARY CIRCUISTANCES WITHIN DISTRICT

:	31.12.64	31.12.65	Increase or Decrease 1964 - 1965	Percentage of total dwellings
Separate Dwellings	1,978	2,753	+ 775	
Dwellings served by (a) Chemical & Pail Closets (b) Water Carriage Closets	145	116	- 29	4•2
	1,833	2,637	+ 804	95•8
<ul><li>(a) Council Sewerage Scheme</li><li>(b) Septic Tanks</li><li>(c) Other Means</li></ul>	1,759	2,579	+ 820	93•7
	110	83	- 27	3•0
	109	91	- 18	3•3
(a) Mains Water Supply (b) Private Water Supply	1,876	2,660	+ 784	96.6
	102	93	- 9	3.4
Dwellings with Baths	1,276	2,122	+ 846	77.1

During 1965 the number of houses served by Pail Closets was reduced by 29 to 116 in total, which apart from a very few cases where exceptional circumstances had delayed conversion, reduced the number to a minimum as there are approximately 100 cases where demolition action is pending or the properties are beyond the limits of the sewer.

The policy continued of encouraging provision of modern amenities to dwellings by utilisation of Standard Grant facilities, and during the year 38 such grants and 1 Discretionary Grant schemes were completed. This is a considerable falling off in number from the immediately preceding years, due no doubt to the completion of the schemes in those years which arose from the sewer extension.

It is a matter of some satisfaction that from the figures published by the County of Chester Financial Officers Association, the fact emerges that only two other Urban Districts in the County have made more grants (covering the whole period of operations of these grants up to 31st March, 1966) than Longdendale Urban District Council, and these figures cover districts up to 50,000 population, both districts with a larger number of grants to their credit in fact being over 20,000 population.

Nevertheless, this satisfactory record does not indicate the problem still remaining, which is the important question for the future, and by publicity and the encouragement of owners - every effort must be made to maintain a good rate of improvement of properties. Certainly if this progress is not maintained the argument for compulsory measures under the Housing Act, 1964, will be urged still more on all local authorities.

During the year the Council completed, with grant aid from the Ministry of Housing and Local Government, the conversion of 20 back-to-back houses in Moorfield Terrace, Hollingworth, into 10 through houses with bathroom accommodation.

Two other houses in private ownership were improved without grant aid.

New houses built by private contractors numbered 47, including a development of 17 houses of Moorfield Terrace, Hollingworth, the Hall Drive and Roe Cross areas at Mottram, and particularly welcome the in-filling of a demolition site in Broadbottom Road, Mottram.

Council house completions during the year were limited to 8 Old Peoples Bungalows in Woodlands Close, Mottram.

Work was commenced during the year on the Moss Lane, Broadbottom, Scheme (13 old peoples' dwellings and 13 two-bedroom units) and also on the Mottram Moor, Mottram, Site, (17 single, 5 double old peoples' flats and Warden's accommodation, together with 9 old peoples' flats (G.F.) 6 two bedroom flats (1st floor) and 3 two-bedroom maisonettes.

Difficulties as to ownership and transfer of land adjoining the new Clinic site in Market Street, Hollingworth, delayed any progress on the proposed building of six old peoples' bungalows at this location.

## HOUSING ACT, 1957

74 Market Street, Hollingworth

1,3,5 Hodge Lane, Broadbottom

32,34 Stalybridge Road, Mottram

36 Stalybridge Road, Nottram

14,16,18,20 Market Street and 7 Atherton Square, Hollingworth

135 Mottram Moor, Nottram

Ivy Cottage and Holly Bank, The Hague, Broadbottom.

19/21 Ashworth Lane, Mottram
23 Ashworth Lane, Mottram

22 Church Brow, Mottram

Subsequent to making of Demolition Order under Section 17, proposals were accepted for making fit.

Reported to December Health Committee as unfit properties.

Informal proposals accepted to make fit and modernise.

Informal undertaking given not to re-let.

Demolition completed by Cheshire County Council.

Demolition completed in compliance with Order.

Houses subject to informal undertaking not to re-let demolished.

Demolition Orders rescinded following completion of proposals to make fit.

Negotiations re making fit as prerequisite to Standard Grant approval.

No applications were received for Disrepair Certificates.

There are no houses in multiple occupation, nor common lodging houses within the district.

## PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, etc.

Number of Informal or Verbal Notices - 112

\* Number of Statutory Notices - 10

Number of Properties at which defects remedied or nuisances abated following informal action - 124

Number of properties at which defects remedied or abated following statutory action - 22

\* Legal proceedings were instituted following non-compliance with Notices served under Sections 39 and 93 of the Public Health Act, 1936, in respect of two dwelling houses. At a Hearing at the Magistrates Court on 15th December, 1965, an adjournment of the case was made for 2 months after a submission from the owner as to placing of an order for the work.

## CLEAN AIR ACT

The district is not designated as a "Black Area" and no steps have been taken to implement Smoke Control Area measures within the district, though as referred to in previous reports, such action would have to be considered in respect of the Overspill Development had not the whole of the dwellings (with the exception of 39 houses eracted in 1964 and covered by tenancy agreements as to burning of smokeless fuel) been built with gas or electric heating to the complete exclusion of solid fuel.

As forecast in last year's report the Council became a member of the South East Lancashire and North Cheshire Consultative Committee for the Investigation of Atmospheric Pollution, and in accordance with the condition of membership, set up an instrument for the measurement of air pollution. The instrument from which daily readings of smoke and sulphur are taken, is sited at the Council Offices in Hollingworth. Comparative tables are compiled over quarterly periods showing the readings in the districts of all the constituent members. From the figures published from the 1st April, 1965, when our instrument was installed, it seems that though the district compares favourably with most of the other districts, particularly as to sulphur dioxide readings, there are other recording points which are consistently as good and even better than the Hollingworth sampling point.

From the information available so far, there seems little doubt that there is scope for the district to benefit from Smoke Control action, and that consideration could well be given to the subject in the future.

Again, some trouble was experienced with burning of industrial waste, this being resolved by arrangements being made for disposal other than by burning.

On the whole, little trouble is experienced with excessive factory emission, the odd occasions when this arose revealing a temporary mechanical fault in oil-firing equipment.

## WATER SUPPLY

The position as to water supply within the district has been fully dealt with in previous reports, being briefly described as wholly under the control of Manchester Corporation waterworks as far as mains supply is concerned the source being the Longdendale reserviors, with treatment works at Tintwistle and Godley from which the water is fed to the covered storage Reservoir at Harrop Edge, with an auxiliary supply available from Hungry Hole Spring which can feed Hollingworth.

Fourteen mains' samples were taken during the year, in addition to those taken regularly by the Waterworks Department. Ten of these were completely coli free, while each of the other four showed a count of only one coliform bacilli (non-faecal) per 100 ml.

Two samples taken from private supplies had counts of 1 and 5 Coliform Bacilli per 100 ml.

Investigation of the possibility of a mains extension to serve properties in Rabbit Lane, Mottram, were re-commenced, this having been the subject of discussions over a long period. An approach to the Cheshire County Council raised hopes of some assistance under the Rural Water Sup lies and Sewerage Acts 1944/61, and following this there did seem some prospect by the end of the year, that at last this scheme might be carried out.

One statutory Notice under Section 138, Public Health Act 1936, requiring connection to mains was served, but this was still outstanding at the end of the year due to negotiations as to wayleaves and agreements in connection with conditions of ownership.

The number of houses served by private water supplies reduced by 9 during the year to a total of 92, leaving a total of 2,660 houses served by mains supply at 31st December, 1965.

## REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

This service is under the control of the Engineer and Surveyor.

#### RODENT CONTROL

The Council continued to give a free service for treatment against rodent infestation, and the Councils employee attended a course on the subject organised by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

The whole of the sewer system was treated with Fluorakil, but takes were minimal.

It was found necessary to serve one Statutory Notice under Section 4 of the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949, following which action was taken in default of compliance and the cost re-charged to the occupier of the premises.

112 premises were specifically inspected in connection with rodent control, and infestations at 45 premises were treated.

Premises

Analysis at the year end

Type	No. Registration (:	if any)
	Sect.16 Food & Drugs Act 1955	
	Ice Cream	Preserved food
1. Chip Potatoes, Fried Fish 2. Butchers 3. Manufacturing Bakery, Grocery Sweets 4. Grocery, Sweets, Greengrocery 5. Grocery, Sweets 6. Sweets 7. Greengrocery 8. Greengrocery, Fish 9. Retail Bakery, Grocery, Sweets 10. Public Houses 11. Clubs selling drinks 12. Factory & School Canteens 13. Cafes	4 8 - 2 6 2 3 - 2 7 5 2 3 3 15 4 8 6	5 3

Action was in hand to press for compliance with requirements of Section 16 of the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations 1960 at one of these premises in contravention of same.

Joint consultation took place with Hyde N.B. on the question of mobile shops, and following this one unsatisfactory vehicle ceased to be used, while improvements were asked for in other cases.

Following protracted negotiations, sanitary accommodation at the Chapman Arms Public House, Hattersley, was converted to water carriage in the form of temporary external block to serve both males and females, this being accepted in view of the limited life of the present building which is scheduled to be replaced by a re-sited structure.

There are no egg pasteurisation plants in the district and no samples of liquid eggs were taken.

## MILK SUPPLY

The licensing of milk suppliers within the district is effected by the Cheshire County Council, with the exception of producer/retailers who are under the control of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

The County Council undertakes the sampling of both heat treated and raw milk retailed in the district, information on these results, a summary of which is given below, being made available by the County Medical Officer of Health.

V 1.1.0	Pass	Fail	Void
Sterilised Milk (Turbidity Test)	17	-	bunk
Pasteurised Milk (Methylene Blue Test) (Phosphatase Test)	47 52	1	4
Untreated Farm Bottled Milk (T. (Met ylene Blue Test)	r) 77	3	4

## Note:

The foregoing tests are those prescribed under the Milk (Special Designation) Regulations, 1960, and are intended to indicate the cleanliness of production and handling, and/or effectiveness of heat treatment. They do not indicate the quality of the milk in terms of fat and non-fat content.

In addition results were notified as follows on tests for brucella infection in raw milk, these samples being taken only either from retail supplies or producers within the district retailing raw milk.

		Positive	Negative
Milk Ring Test - (1) Bulk samples (at Farm)	(+) (++) (+++)	7 1 2	36
(2) Retail Samples	(+) (+++)	30 2 1	48
Culture - (1) Bulk samples		-	39
(2) Retail samples		2	43

Results following guinea pig inoculations were in all 16 cases negative for tubercle examination, as also were 2 for brucella.

As a result of the two positive Culture results for Brucella, action was taken in one case by the authority in which the supplying farm was situated, in the form of a pasteurisation order, and in the other case, involving a farm within the Longdendale area, a Pasteurisation Order was served until further investigations had been carried out.

Results on individual cow samples in the latter and other cases investigated were as follows:-

		Positive	Negative
Milk Ring Test	(+)	1	32
3	(++)	3	
	(+++)	2	
	(++++)	3	
Culture		3	38

l Guinea pig inoculation showed positive on examination for Brucella from individual cow sampling.

## SLAUGHTERHOUSES

There are no Slaughter Houses within the district.

## OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

The total number of premises registered at the end of the year was as follows:-

Offices - 1
Retail Shops - 14
Catering Establishments - 12

37 visits had been made to these premises and 10 informal notices served for compliance with the Act.

#### ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS

One Boarding Establishment is licensed within the district under this Act.

# APPENDIX FACTORIES ACT, 1961

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health in respect of the year 1965 for the URBAN DISTRICT OF LONGDENDALE in the County of Cheshire.

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of the Factories
Act, 1961

## Part 1 of the Act

## 1. INSPECTIONS

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Inspections	Number of Written Notices (4)	Occupiers Prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	-	<u>-</u>	-	
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	16	5	; *	_
(iii)Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers premises).	3	5		<b></b>
Total:-	19	10	-	-

## 2. CASUS IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

	Number of cases in which defects were found				No. of cases in which	
Particulars	Found	Remedied	to H.M.	H.M. Inspr.	prosecutions were instituted	
(1)	(2)	(3)	Insp. (4)	(5)	(6)	
Want of Cleanliness (S.1)	-	-			b	
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-		-	-	
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-	-		p==	
Inadequate Ventilation (S.4)	_	-	-	jane		
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-		
Sanitar Conveniences (S.7)	_	-	-	-	-	
(a) Insufficient	7	-		-	-	
(b) Unsuitable or defective (c) Not separate for sexes	1	_		_	-	
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)		-	-	-	_	
	1	1	_	· -	•	

## APPENDIX - (2)

Factories Act, 1961

Part viii of the Act

(Sections 133 and 134)

			Section 110		Section 111	
Nature of work	No.of out- workers in August list required by Section 110 (1) (c)		No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists.	No. of instan-ces of work in unwhole-some premises	Notices served	Prosecu- tions.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Wearing) Making apparel) etc.	2	<b>3-2</b>	-	tana .	-	-
Cleaning and washing	_		:. <b>-</b>	<b></b>	-	
Brush Making	1	-	-	-	-	-
All other forms of Outwork		distribution of the state of th		_	-	_